

Remarks

Claims 97-110 have been added. Claims 15, 20, 42, 46, 51, 62, 67, 85, and 90 have been amended. No new matter has been added by the amendments to the claims. Claim 97 is supported by the specification, for example, at page 6, paragraph 39 and page 24, paragraph 131. Claims 98, 100, 106 and 108 are supported by the specification, for example, at page 17, paragraph 97 and page 18, paragraphs 103 and 104. Claims 99 and 107 are supported by the specification, for example, at page 24, paragraph 131. Claims 101, 102, 109 and 110 are supported by the specification, for example, at page 22, paragraphs 121 and 123. Claim 103 is supported by the specification, for example, at page 12, paragraphs 70 and 72, pages 13-14, paragraphs 80-81 and page 24, paragraph 131. Claims 104 and 105 are supported by the specification, for example, at page 13, paragraph 80. Entry of the above amendment is respectfully solicited. After entry of this amendment, claims 1-110 will be pending.

New claims 97-110 are specifically presented for the purpose of provoking an interference with unexpired U.S. Patent No. 6,403,088 to Alitalo et al. (hereinafter "the Alitalo '088 patent"), which issued on June 11, 2002. Although, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.606 and 1.607(c), Applicants submit that some or all of claims 1 to 110 correspond exactly or substantially to claims 1 to 6 of the Alitalo '088 patent.

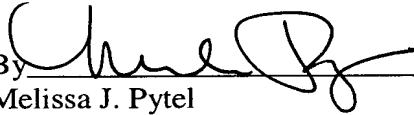
Therefore, the earliest priority date for the Alitalo '088 patent is later than the filing date of either application to which the instant divisional application claims priority (i.e., June 6, 1995 and March 4, 1994). The instant application is a divisional application and claims benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/465,968, filed June 6, 1995; which is a continuation-in-part, and claims benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120, of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/207,550, filed March 8, 1994, now abandoned. The Alitalo '088 patent was filed on February 14, 1996, as a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/585,895, filed on January 12, 1996 (now US 6,245,530), which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/510,133, filed on August 1, 1995 (now US 6,221,839).

Conclusion

In summary, Applicants respectfully request: (1) that the claims be indicated as allowable; (2) that an interference be declared between the captioned application and U.S. Patent No. 6,403,088 to Alitalo on June 11, 2002; and (3) that claims 1-110 be considered as the basis for an interference with claims 1 to 6 of the Alitalo '088 patent. Applicants respectfully request that the above-made amendments and remarks be entered and made of record in the instant application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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